GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2349
ANSWERED ON:04.12.2001
SCIENTIFIC MANPOWER
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Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the present scientific manpower in the country;

(b) whether it is a fact that scientific manpower in India is much lower than the other countries in the World; and

(c) if so, the steps being taken to increase scientific manpower in the country ?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY(SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT)
(a), (b) & (c) According to an estimate made by the Institute of Applied Manpower Research (IAMR), the country`s stock of Scientific and Technical (S&T) manpower at the beginning of 1999 was 7.2 million. International comparison of S&T manpower has limitations as the member countries of UNESCO adopt their own definitions, classifications of S&T personnel while providing data to UNESCO and also the years of reference of data are not the same for different countries. These limitations make the international comparison unrealistic. Government have initiated several steps for strengthening S&T manpower in the country such as - increase in the outlay for science and technology sector in Five Year Plans, creation of new scientific departments/organisations, setting up of more centres of excellence/advanced studies in universities and academic institutions, S&T based training for entrepreneurial development, manpower development training/re-training programmes through Associateships/ Fellowships, summer schools, fast track proposals for young scientists, BOYSCAST Fellowships for visiting international laboratories and institutions, Swarnajayanti Fellowships, Integrated Science Olympiad Programme to enable Indian students participation in international olympiad, Kishore Vaigyanik Protsahan Yojana to encourage students of basic sciences, engineering and medicine to take up research as career.